

## Announcements

# The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Journals

## *Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*

*Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* Editors Dr Harvey Pass and Dr Todd Rosengart would like to call your attention to several articles of interest in the next issue of the journal. "Discussions in Cardiothoracic Treatment and Care" features a roundtable on "TAVR" moderated by Dr Craig Smith with expert discussants Drs Vinod

Thourani, Michael Reardon, Charanjit Rihal, and Neil Moat debating the merits and pitfalls of TAVR and the future of cardiac intervention. The Editors also want to emphasize the "News and Views" article by Dr Bruce Ferguson on "The Affordable Care Act: Implications for Cardiac Surgery." Dr Ferguson explains the "ObamaCare" Act and its impact on the specialty—an important read for any cardiothoracic surgeon. The last highlighted article is a "Current Readings" contribution written by Dr William Rom from New York University on the most recent studies on blood-based biomarkers for diagnosing lung cancer.

# The Western Thoracic Surgical Association

## WTSA 40th Annual Meeting

June 25-28, 2014

The St. Regis Monarch Beach

Dana Point, California

Visit the WTSA Web site at [www.westernthoracic.org](http://www.westernthoracic.org) and:

- View the scientific and social programs;
- Register before the Monday, May 19, 2014, Early Bird deadline, and avoid a \$100 increase in most registration fees;
- Reserve your hotel room before the Saturday, May 24, 2014, housing deadline (although it is possible the block of rooms—or specific room types—set aside for the Western will fill before this cut-off date, so you are strongly encouraged to **make your hotel reservations as soon as possible**); and
- Get complete details on venue activities and local attractions.

## SCIENTIFIC HIGHLIGHTS

### Thursday, June 26, 2014

#### Presidential Address

Thomas A. Burdon, Stanford, California

### Friday, June 27, 2014

#### Postgraduate Course

Dave Williams, Newmarket, Ontario

### Saturday, June 28, 2014

#### C. Walton Lillehei Point/Counterpoint Session

*Pay-for-Performance vs Criteria-Based Systems in the US and Canada*

US: Jeffrey B. Rich, Norfolk, Virginia

Canada: Alan H. Menkis, Winnipeg, Manitoba

## SOCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

Each registration *includes* access to Wednesday's **New Members/Welcome Reception**, Thursday's **Samson Fun**

**Run and So-Cal Vintage Beach Party Theme Dinner**, and Saturday's **Family Luncheon** and **President's Banquet**. (Registered children, ages 5-18, have access to supervised **Children's Receptions** during the New Members/Welcome Reception and President's Banquet.)

You may also *supplement* your Annual Meeting experience with these events:

- Thursday's **Optional Tours\***
- Friday's **Golf Tournament\***
- Friday's **Tennis Tournament\***

\*Separate Registration Required

## ACCREDITATION

This activity is being planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS) and the Western Thoracic Surgical Association (WTSA). The AATS is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

This live activity will be designated for **AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>TM</sup>**. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## Applications for Membership

The WTSA is now accepting Applications for Membership online for Active as well as Candidate membership status. Visit the WTSA Web site at [www.westernthoracic.org](http://www.westernthoracic.org) to read the complete membership eligibility requirements and to initiate an online application.

### Active Member

\$325.00 annually, plus \$50.00 initiation fee

Applicant must meet all membership criteria, including but not limited to:

- Reside within or have completed a cardiothoracic residency training program within the geographic limits of the Association.
- Have been engaged in the practice of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery for at least three years following completion of postgraduate training. If a candidate completed his/her thoracic surgical residency in an institution within the geographic limits of the Association, such completion may count toward one of the three years of practice.
- Have a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in his or her respective state or province, and have a current appointment on the surgical staff of a hospital with no reportable action pending which could adversely affect such applicant's staff privileges at any hospital.

#### Candidate Member

\$100.00 annually

Applicant must meet all membership criteria, including but not limited to:

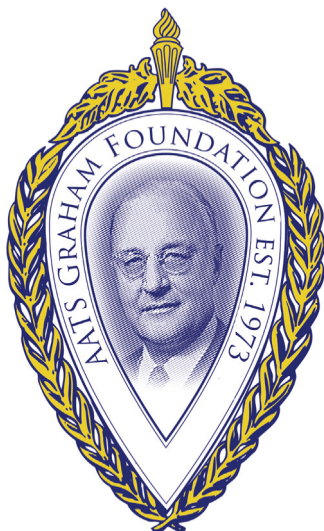
- Be matched or enrolled in either a cardiothoracic surgery education program accredited by the Resi-

dency Review Committee for Thoracic Surgery under the authority of the ACGME or a program approved for cardiothoracic surgery education by the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada—or their equivalency—from within the Association's geographic limits. Individuals who have completed their education in one of the above programs and are in the process of acquiring certification in cardiothoracic surgery by either the American Board of Thoracic Surgery or the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada also are eligible to apply for Candidate membership.

An application must include the following uploads: a photo; a complete curriculum vitae with bibliography; and, for Active applicants, the 3 most significant articles that s/he personally wrote. The application must be completed and submitted online by March 1, 2014, and all support letter(s) (three for Active applicants, one for Candidates) uploaded by that applicant's sponsor(s) by March 31, 2014, in order for the applicant to be considered for election to membership at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

## The AATS Graham Foundation

### In Its 40th Year, the AATS Graham Foundation Announces New Specialty Programs



Over the past year, new fellowship programs for medical students, fellows, residents, and international professionals have been developed that provide specialized educational and training opportunities.

**The Cardiothoracic Surgical Investigator Program** caters to cardiothoracic surgeons interested in conducting clinical or translational research, while the **Traveling Scholar Program** provides young cardiothoracic surgeons from around the world a chance to study clinical techniques at a secondary institution.

Our new **Resident Poster Session Scholarship** for thoracic surgical residents has become extremely popular and competitive, along with the **Critical Care Scholarship** program that boasts over 50 students expected to participate in 2014!

Along with our programmatic growth, we have engaged our Board of Directors to a full complement of eight, complete with two active board committees: Advisory Council headed by Dr Tim Gardner and Development Committee headed by Dr Raphael Bueno.

As our parent Association, the AATS underwrites all operational costs of the Foundation, allowing 100% of all individuals' contributions to go directly to Foundation programming.

The AATS Graham Research Foundation is *driving leadership, learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence!* For more information on the AATS Graham Foundation, please visit <http://aatsgrahamfoundation.org>.